

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 TEHRAN 03332 271528Z

71

ACTION NEA-12

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 EA-11 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03

INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-07 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-03

SS-20 USIA-15 ACDA-19 IO-14 SAM-01 SAJ-01 OMB-01

DRC-01 /160 W

----- 089090

R 271320Z APR 74

FM AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6272

INFO USMISSION USUN

AMEMBASSY CANBERRA 51

AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

C O N F I D E N T I A L TEHRAN 3332

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MARR, XO, U,, IR

SUBJECT: INDIAN OCEAN ZONE OF PEACE--VIEWSOF IRANIAN

MEMBER OF COMMITTEE DRAFTING STATEMENT OF UNSYG

1. SUMMARY: RETIRED IRANIAN ADMIRAL SAFAVI DISCUSSED WITH AUSTRALIAN AMBASSADOR TO IRAN WHITE WORK OF COMMITTEE OF EXPERTS APPOINTED BY UNSYG TO PREPARE STATEMENT OF ACTS AND DEFINITIONS ON GREAT POWER PRESENCE IN INDIAN OCEAN (PROTECT BOTH SOURCES). COMMITTEE HAS ATTEMPTED TO DEMARCATE INDIAN OCEAN AND DEFINE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN QTE BASE UNQTE AND QTE FACILITY UNQTE. STATEMENT WILL BE BASED ON PUBLICLY AVAILABLY INFORMATION AND WILL BE DESIGNED TO GAIN UNANIMOUS ACCEPTANCE IN UNGA. SAFAVI BELIEVES ZONE OF PEACE RESOLUTION CAN BE ADOPTED BUT DOUBTS IT WILL BE EFFECTIVE. IRANIAN AND AUSTRALIAN GOVERNMENT VIES ON ZONE OF PEACE ALSO DISCUSSED. END SUMMARY.

2. FOLLOWING UP ON BRIEF CONVERSATION AMBASSADOR HAD AT
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 TEHRAN 03332 271528Z

RECEPTION WITH AUSTRALIAN AMBASSADOR WHITE, POLCOUN RECEIVED

FROM AUSTRALIAN COUNSELOR WILSON DETAILED ACCOUNT OF WORK BY THREE-MAN TEAM OF EXPERTS APPOINTED BY UNSYG TO PREPARE STATEMENT ON GREAT POWER MILITARY PRESENCE IN INDIAN OCEAN. STATEMENT WHICH WILL SET OUT FACTS AND DEFINITIONS OF SITUATION WAS TO HAVE BEEN READY FOR SYG IN LATE APRIL BUT DUE-DATE HAS BEEN POSTPONED TO JUNE TO GIVE TIME FOR UN AD HOC COMMITTEE ON INDIAN OCEAN TO STUDY IT FIRST. DRAFTING COMMITTEE CONSISTS OF RETIRED IRANIAN VICE ADMIRAL SHAMSEDDIN SAFAVI, INDIAN EXPERT SUBRAMANYAM, AND DR. BARNABY, DIRECTOR OF STOCKHOLM PEACE RESEARCH INSTITUTE. SAFAVI DISCUSSED WORK OF COMMITTEE WITH AMB WHITE ON MARCH 18 IN PRESENCE OF HASSAN IZADI, CHIEF OF MFA'S NINTH POLITICAL DIVISION. (PLEASE PROTECT AUSTRALIAN AND IRANIAN SOURCES.)

3. ATTEMPTING TO DEMARCATE INDIAN OCEAN, COMMITTEE SUGGESTED IT BE BOUNDED ON SOUTH BY LINE RUNNING DUE EAST FROM SOUTHERNMOST POINT IN AFRICA. NORTHEASTERN BOUNDARY WAS STILL VAGUE AT TIME OF CONVERSATION. RED SEA WAS SPECIFICALLY INCLUDED.

4. DEFINING QTE FACILITIES UNQTE AND QTE BASES UNQTE, SAFAVI SAID A FACILITY COULD PROVIDE BUNKERING AND COMMUNICATIONS, REPLENISH STORES, DO MINOR REPAIRS AND SERVICE ELECTRONIC EQUIPMENT, INCLUDING SONAR; I.E. DO ALL THAT IS REQUIRED TO KEEP A SHIP AT SEA FOR LONG PERIOD. ESSENTIAL DIFFERENCE BETWEEN FACILITY AND BASE WAS THAT BASE COULD OFFER REPLENISHMENT OF AMMUNITION. SAFAVI CITED BANDAR ABBAS AS EXAMPLE OF LITTORAL STATE BASE WHICH COULD PROVIDE FACILITIES FOR VESSELS OF OTHER COUNTRIES. HE SAID DIEGO GARCIA WOULD BE BASE WHEN PLANNED EXTENSIONS COMPLETED ((IZADI DISAGREED, SAYING DIEGO GARCIA AS HE UNDERSTOOD IT WOULD FIT DEFINITION OF FACILITY, NOT BASE). RUSSIAN FACILITIES AT BERBERA AND SOCOTRA COULD PROBABLY SOON BE CLASSED AS BASES, SAID SAFAVI, AS COULD SEVERAL OTHER PORTS IN SOUTHCENTRAL ASIA. LACK OF SHORE BASES IS NO HANDICAP FOR SOVIETS AS THEY ARE WELL SERVICED BY SUPPLY SHIPS WHICH REGULARLY REDEZVOUS WITH SOV SHIPS AT DEEP WATER ANCHORAGES IN INDIAN OCEAN.

5. ON FORM STATEMENT WOULD TAKE, SAFAVI SAID IT WOULD BE PURELY FACTUAL AND BASED ON INFORMATION PUBLICLY AVAILABLE, SINCE IT WAS IMPORTANT THERE BE NO ARGUMENT WHEN DISCUSSED IN UNGA. NEW CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 TEHRAN 03332 271528Z

YORK TIMES HAD PROVIDED SUFFICIENT INFORMATION ON AMERICAN PRESENCE AND SUBRAMANYAM HAD CONSIDERABLE DATA ON SOVIET PRESENCE WHICH WOULD BE DIFFICULT TO REFUTE PUBLICLY. IT WAS WELL KNOWN THAT SOVIETS HAD MANY ADVISORS IN IRAQ AND COMMITTEE HAD AGREED THESE SHOULD BE CONSIDERED A FACTOR IN SOVIET MILITARY PRESENCE. WHEN WHITE ASKED IF THIS MIGHT NOT EVOKE SUGGESTION THAT US ADVISORS IN IRAN ALSO BE INCLUDED, SAFAVI REPLIED ONLY THAT THIS MUST BE AVOIDED. FORMULA MUST BE DEvised TO ALLOW

UNANIMOUS ACCEPTANCE BECAUSE OF BENEFITS TO LITTORAL STATES, MANY OF WHICH ARE UNDERDEVELOPED AND SPENDING BEYOND THEIR MEANS ON DEFENSE. IT WOULD ALSO BE OF GREAT BENEFIT TO SOVIET UNION IF US NUCLEAR THREAT FROM INDIAN OCEAN WERE REMOVED.

6. WHITE SUGGESTED CURRENT US INTEREST IN INDIAN OCEAN AND DIEGO GARCIA WAS IN REPLY TO MARKED INCREASE IN SOVIET PRESENCE SINCE 1968 AND ASKED WHETHER SOVIET SHIP VISITS TO UMM QASR MIGHT LEAD TO CORRESPONDING INCREASE IN US NAVAL VISITS TO FRIENDLY LITTORAL COUNTRIES. SAFAVI REPLIED ALL NATIONS HAD RIGHT OF INNOCENT PASSAGE IN INTERNATIONAL WATERWAYS. HE SAW NO CONFLICT BETWEEN AN INDIAN OCEAN ZONE OF PEACE (IOZP) RESOLUTION AND ANY AGREEMENT WHICH MIGHT BE REACHED AT AN OCEAN SEA CONFERENCE. BREZHNEV HAD PROPOSED AN IOZP TIED TO MEDITERRANEAN PEACE ZONE AND NIXON HAD NOT YET REPLIED FOR REASONS SAFAVI WELL UNDERSTOOD. GIVEN FACTS OF GEOGRAPHY, A US WITHDRAWAL FROM MED WOULD BE VERY DANGEROUS EVEN IF SOVS ALSO WITHDREW SINCE SOVS WOULD THEN BE ABLE TO INCREASE INFILTRATION OF LDC'S IN AREA. ADMIRAL WAS MOST OPTIMISTIC ABOUT PROSPECTS FOR ACCEPTANCE OF IOZP RESOLUTION BUT WAS EQUALLY PESSIMISTIC THAT IT COULD BE ENFORCED.

7. ASKED IF HE THOUGHT THERE WOULD BE SHARP REDUCTION IN MILITARY EXPENDITURES BY LITTORAL STATES IF THERE WERE REDUCTIONS IN GREAT POWER PRESENCE, SAFAVI REPLIED NOT NECESSARILY; IF IRAQ FOR EXAMPLE CONTINUED TO SEEK AND RECEIVE MORE ARMS FROM SOVIETS, IRAN WOULD HOPE GET MORE FROM USM (HE MADE IT CLEAR, HOWEVER, THAT IRAN DID NOT FEAR IRAQ SINCE IT WAS QUITE AN UNSTABLE COUNTRY WHERE ONE MIGHT EXPECT A COUP EVERY FORTNIGHT UNQUOTE.)

8. WHITE ASKED IZADI FOR HIS VIEW OF US DECISION TO EXPAND DIEGO GARCIA. IZADI REPLIED THAT SHAH HAD STATED INDIAN OCEAN SHOULD BE ZONE OF PEACE BUT UNTIL UN HAD ABILITY TO

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 04 TEHRAN 03332 271528Z

ENFORCE AN AGREEMENT IT WAS NECESSARY THAT STATES BE ABLE TO DEFEND THEMSELVES. IF THERE WERE EFFECTIVE IOZP AGREEMENT THERE WOULD BE NO NEED FOR DIEGO GARCIA.

9. ASKED FOR AUSTRALIAN POSITION ON IOZP RESOLUTION, WHITE REPLIED THAT GOA HAD CO-SPONSORED LATEST RESOLUTION AND ACCEPTED MEMBERSHIP ON AD HOC COMMITTEE. AFTER CHANGE IN AUSTRALIAN GOVT THERE HAD BEEN CHANGE IN POLICY. WHEREAS PREVIOUS GOVT WAS NOT OPPOSED TO IOZP, IT PROBABLY SAW LITTLE REASON TO SUPPORT RESOLUTION WHICH WOULD PROVE IMPRACTICABLE. PRESENT GOVT ON OTHER HAND IS PREPARED TO ENDORSE BALANCED RESOLUTION IN HOPE IT WILL LEAD TO EFFECTIVE AGREEMENT. GOA WANTS TO AVOID SITUATION WHERE OUTCOME IS REDUCTION IN NAVAL PRESENCE OF ONLY ONE SUPERPOWER. SAFAVI TOO HOPED THERE WOULD NOT BE PREPONDERANT SOVIET PRESENCE IN INDIAN OCEAN AND MENTIONED

AGAIN HOW IMPORTANT IT WAS THAT THERE BE PROPER MEANS OF
ENFORCING ANY AGREEMENT.
HELMS

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: UNGA RESOLUTIONS, MILITARY POLICIES, INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 27 APR 1974
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: GolinoFR
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1974TEHRAN03332
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D740101-0101
From: TEHRAN
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1974/newtext/t1974048/aaaaagmu.tel
Line Count: 172
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION NEA
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 4
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: GolinoFR
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 05 JUN 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <05 JUN 2002 by boyleja>; APPROVED <20 FEB 2003 by GolinoFR>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: INDIAN OCEAN ZONE OF PEACE--VIEWSOF IRANIAN MEMBER OF COMMITTEE DRAFTING STATEMENT OF UNSYG
TAGS: MARR, XO, US, IR, UN
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005